

STUDIES ON THE SPECIES OF OMUS, NO. 1

(Coleoptera, Cicindelidæ)

BY F. W. NUNENMACHER

Piedmont, California

Among my captures for the present year, 1939, I recognize what appear to be two new and interesting species of *Omus*, and take this opportunity to make them known.

Omus subcylindricus Nunenmacher, new species

Form elongate, parallel and slightly ventricose. Head a little narrower than the widest part of the pronotum, rather coarsely and densely rugulose. Antennæ long and slender, a little shorter in the female than in the male.

Pronotum as wide as long, widest at apical fourth (5 mm.); sides arcuate, straighter posteriorly and moderately convergent toward base, the latter 4 mm. in width; disk rather finely, densely and moderately deeply vermiculate-rugose, the vermiculations very fragmentary and short, in this quite different from all the other species that I have seen or studied.

Elytra in the male type 12 mm. long and 6 mm. in width behind the middle at posterior third. Sides arcuate from the base, parallel in middle two-thirds, thence arcuately converging to apex, the tip evenly rounded; disk coarsely and moderately, deeply punctured, the punctures becoming more crowded toward and along the sides, without granules, but with a minute short and smooth line at the bottom of each coarse puncture. The only evidence of foveæ are a few scattered extra large punctures. Legs rather long.

Female. The elytra are 14 mm. in length and 7 mm. in width.

Measurements of types. Male: length, 18 mm.; width, 6 mm. Female: length, 20 mm.; width, 7 mm.

Type locality: Santa Clara County, California. Variation in the length is from 17 mm. to 22 mm., and the width, 5 to 7 mm.

Holotype, male; allotype, female, and twenty-six paratypes in my collection. Nineteen specimens were collected on April 16, 1939; nine others on April 23, 1939.

So far I have found this species only in a locality about 400 feet long and 20 feet wide. It has the appearance of an *Amblycheila* at first glance, the elongate and parallel form being notable. The species belongs to the *Lecontei* group. Compared with its close allies, *lecontei* and *intermedius*, it is more parallel with the vermiculate-rugose sculpturing twice as fine and more crowded than in *lecontei*. The pronotum of *intermedius* has

only traces of such sculpturing. The distribution of this species appears to be very local and it will, in all probability, prove to be a scarce insect in collections.

Omus vanlooi Nunenmacher, new species

Apparently belonging to the *Edwardsi* group. The large females look somewhat like that species, but in general the black color is dull or flat and the vermiculate-rugose sculpturing will separate the two species.

Head a little smaller than the widest part of the pronotum; not so coarsely rugulose as in *californicus*, but more like that in *lecontei*. Antennæ long and slender, slightly different in the two sexes.

Pronotum with the sides evenly arcuate to the middle, thence almost straight to the base; surface thickly vermiculate-rugose, but not as deeply so as in *californicus*, more like that in *lecontei*. Measurements: Length 3.5 mm.; width 4 mm. at the widest point before the middle and 3 mm. at base.

Elytra coarsely and densely punctate, with no granules. At the humeri and towards the sides the punctures become deeper and closer. There are no indications of foveæ, only here and there a large shallow puncture. Legs rather long.

Male. Narrower and less ventricose with the antennæ slightly longer and the sides of the elytra less arcuate than in the female. The elytra measure 9 mm. in length and 5 mm. in width.

Female. Body broader and more dilated, a little ventricose; elytral apex a little more pointed than in the male and the sides more strongly arcuate. The elytra measure 10 mm. in length and 6 mm. in width.

Measurements of types. Male: 15 mm. in length and 5 mm. in width. Female: 16 mm. in length and 6 mm. in width. The paratypes vary as follows: Length 13 to 17 mm., width 5 to 7 mm.

Type locality. Butte County, California.

Holotype, male, allotype, female, and fifty-six paratypes in the author's collection.

The species is dedicated to W. C. Van Loo.